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## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

October 31, 1994

Mr. Rafeeq Naji  
African American Development Association  
P.O. Box 896  
Oakland, California 94604

**RE: AADA Activities at Verdesse Carter Park**

Dear Mr. Naji:

The purpose of this letter is to recognize your individual contribution and the contribution of the African American Development Association in the cleanup of Verdesse Carter Park. It has been just a little over one year since you were at the EPA Region 9 office with concerns about the safety of Verdesse Carter Park. One year later we are very close to final park cleanup. Your support and assistance have been instrumental in this significant achievement.

The interaction between AADA and EPA over the past year is an example of what can be done when the community and government work together to achieve a common goal. The AADA, the City of Oakland, Alameda County, ATSDR, EPA, and the community surrounding Verdesse Carter Park all share in this success.

It is also appropriate to recognize the activities the AADA has offered to conduct in support of EPA's off-site investigation. Your assistance in obtaining site access, providing fact sheets and information to the local community, and the development of a local repository of information will help ensure the local community is both informed and involved in all of EPA's activities in the area of the park.

Once again, thank you for your assistance. We look forward to continuing to work together with the AADA in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Daniel Opalski".

Daniel Opalski, Chief  
Enforcement Programs Section

cc: file